

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 70

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the restriction that a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker provide services in a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility to a patient only under the care of a physician.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 24, 2005

Mr. INOUE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

FEBRUARY 17, 2005

Committee discharged; referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the restriction that a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker provide services in a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility to a patient only under the care of a physician.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Autonomy for Psy-
5 chologists and Social Workers Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF RESTRICTION THAT A CLINICAL PSY-**
 2 **CHOLOGIST OR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER**
 3 **PROVIDE SERVICES IN A COMPREHENSIVE**
 4 **OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION FACILITY TO**
 5 **A PATIENT ONLY UNDER THE CARE OF A**
 6 **PHYSICIAN.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(cc)(2)(E) of the So-
 8 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(cc)(2)(E)) is amended
 9 by striking “physician” and inserting “physician, except
 10 that a patient receiving qualified psychologist services (as
 11 defined in subsection (ii)) may be under the care of a clin-
 12 ical psychologist with respect to such services to the extent
 13 permitted under State law and except that a patient re-
 14 ceiving clinical social worker services (as defined in sub-
 15 section (hh)(2)) may be under the care of a clinical social
 16 worker with respect to such services to the extent per-
 17 mitted under State law”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 19 subsection (a) shall apply to services provided on or after
 20 January 1, 2006.

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